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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eckhard Alt
 Application No.: 09/735401
 Filed: December 12, 2000
 For: Tubular Stent with Oval Struts
 Examiner: Michael Thaler
 Group Art Unit: 3731
 Firm Docket No.: S63.2N-11056-US03

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Following please find a(n) 1 page Request for Continued Examination (RCE); 6 pg Amendment; and 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

With respect to fees: No additional fee is believed to be required
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If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefore.

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Respectfully submitted,
 VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: December 8, 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306, on December 8, 2003.

Signature: Mindy L. PilarSKI
 Mindy L. PilarSKI